

"Blade of Grass"

Ben Wills

**Activity Summary**

Use the activities below for pre-listening tasks for the song *Blade of Grass*. Adapt the activities as needed.

**Associated Audio**

*Blade of Grass* by Ben Will

**★ Pre-listening Activity 1 (Beginner)**

1. Write down numbers 1-5 on a piece of paper.
2. Then write down 5 things that make you happy.
3. When everyone is finished, walk around the room and share your answers with your partners.
4. If anyone has a similar answer to you, write their name down next to the answer you have in common.
5. After 5-10 minutes, sit down and write sentences about what makes you and your classmate happy. For example, "*Spending time with friends make Sara, Amir, and I happy.*"
6. Finally, share your sentences in a small group.

Extra step: Create a "gratitude wall" in the classroom, and tape students' sentences to the wall. Students can add more sentences about what makes them happy throughout the week.

**Online tip**

Create a Padlet board (<https://padlet.com/>) and ask students to write 5 sentences about what makes them happy. Then ask them to read their classmates' sentences to look for similar answers.

**Pre-listening Activity 2 (Intermediate/Advanced)**

1. You will each use the *scavenger hunt worksheet* (below) to find things you are grateful for.
2. Take your phone or tablet to take pictures of each item on the list.
3. You may walk around the school for the scavenger hunt.
4. Try to be the first person to complete the scavenger hunt and return to the classroom!

Students can share their answers with the class or small groups when they return.

**Online Tip**

Create a WhatsApp (or other messaging service) group for students to share their photos.

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## Gratitude Scavenger Hunt

*"When we focus on our gratitude, the tide of disappointment goes out and the tide of love rushes in."*  
-Kristin Armstrong

Take a picture of the following items, write the name of the item, and be the first to finish!

Something you love	
Something that is your favorite color	
Something you are thankful for	
Something that makes you think or learn	
Something that represents your community or culture	
Something you like to read	
Something that is beautiful	

\*Each item on your list must be unique.